

## **Governance Committee**

### **Minutes**

July 20, 2006

#### Present

Suzanne Gries (Chair), Kristin Hennessey, Michael Raymond, Patty McDonald, Sara McQueed, Sherrie Brown

#### Staff

Ed Holen, Clare Billings, Linda Walling

#### Adjustments to the Agenda

There were none.

#### Minutes

Mike moved and Sara seconded to approve the March 2006 minutes as written. The motion carried.

#### Policy 406

The Committee reviewed the changes the Membership Committee made to the policy. They recommended changing the beginning of the second paragraph under attendance to read: "When a Council member has missed six meetings or more in a twelve-month period."

The Committee approved sending the policy back to the Membership Committee for approval and vote at the full Council in September.

#### Designated State Agency

The Committee discussed the Council's options:

- ✓ Remain with CTED as a sub-program in the Community Services Division
- ✓ Become a stand-alone unit (separate division) within CTED that reports directly to the Director's office
- ✓ Become our own state agency
- ✓ Become a non-profit

Clare gave examples of services the Council purchases directly and are also included in the agency indirect costs. If the Council became its own separate agency we would be possible to purchase budget, accounting and fiscal services through the Office of Financial Management Small Agency Services Unit at a much lower rate than what it is costing us for CTED agency indirect for the same services.

The Committee talked about drafting a letter requesting that the Governor consider the Council becoming its own designated state agency.

### Council Member Stipends

The governor's office has different classifications for boards & commissions. Currently, the Council is in a classification that allows reimbursement for travel expenses, but not payment of stipends. The governor's office would have to change the Council's classification before stipends could be paid to members for attending Council meetings.

The Committee discussed that stipends would be considered income and may have an impact on the individual receiving it. In order for a Council member to receive a stipend they must be unemployed or would have to forfeit pay to attend Council meetings, or perform Council duties, according to the federal law PL 106-402 DD Act.

Clarification from the attorney general may be needed about Council members receiving a stipend to participate in Council funding projects. Staff will gather more information & bring back to the committee for further discussion at a future meeting.

#### Updating Council Policies

The Committee decided to review the Council's policies. They will review and update as necessary.

#### Council Meeting Review

The Committee talked about the number of Council meetings that are held during the year. They would like further discussion for possible budget savings.

#### September Council Meeting

- ✓ Designated State Agency Review
- ✓ Updating/review of Council Policies
- ✓ Discuss # of Council meetings
- ✓ Discuss DSA options

#### Report to Council

Policy 406